

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election with traverse of Species B figures 2-3 claims 12-26, and 31 (see interview summary) in the reply filed on 10/10/2008 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that each of these illustrated embodiments belongs to one common invention and has a common feature, namely, adjacent coils on adjacent pole teeth are connected via a contact bridge between the collector laminates. This is not found persuasive because the Species are different in structure/arrangement and have acquired a separate status in the art due to their recognized divergent subject matter.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shiraki et al. (US 4876472).

Regarding claim 12, Shiraki et al. disclose an electrical machine having at least four exciter poles (50) in the stator and having a commutator rotor which has a number of slots (6) and pole teeth (4) on its circumference, which number is greater than the number of exciter poles, having a number of commutator laminations (72) which is twice

as large as the number of pole teeth, and having at least one pair of stationary carbon brushes (12) which are offset from one another by a pole pitch of the exciter pole and cooperate with the laminations of the commutator for supplying current to coils which are each wound onto one of the pole teeth, and the diametrically opposed laminations are each joined together via contact bridges, the improvement wherein, when there is an even number of slots, pole teeth and coils the beginning and end of one of the coils disposed on adjacent pole teeth is connected directly to the laminations adjacent to one another, and the beginning and end of the other coil (70) is connected via one of the contact bridges to the laminations adjacent to one another.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 13-26 and 31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. see PTO-892.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to THANH LAM whose telephone number is (571)272-2026. The examiner can normally be reached on Mo-Fr, 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Quyen P. Leung can be reached on (571) 272-8188. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Thanh Lam/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2834
